



STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

302 W. Washington Street  
IGCS, Room E-114  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Corporal Travis Thickstun  
Public Information Officer  
Telephone 317-232-2469  
tthickstun@atc.in.gov  
www.in.gov/ise

**For Immediate Release**

**Excise Officers Cite 30 Tobacco Businesses**

**LAKE COUNTY, Ind. (Dec. 17)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers cited 30 businesses on 82 tobacco-related charges in Lake County yesterday.

Excise officers were investigating a complaint that numerous tobacco businesses in Lake County were illegally purchasing cigarettes and other tobacco products from sources other than licensed tobacco distributors.

As a result of their investigations, excise officers preliminarily cited 30 tobacco businesses with 82 violations of state tobacco laws (*list attached*). Officers seized numerous packs of cigarettes, marijuana and prescription drugs. They also issued tickets to individuals for possession of marijuana and for smoking in a prohibited location. Additional drug-related charges are also pending.

Anyone with information concerning violations of Indiana's tobacco laws should contact the State Excise Police at 574-264-9480.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

*Criminal Charges: All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.*

*Administrative Charges: All respondents are to be presumed not liable until, and unless, the plaintiff can prove by preponderance of the evidence the respondent's liability in an administrative hearing.*